

# **BRACKET FOR CLOTHESHORSE**

## **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

### **1. Field of the Invention**

The invention relates to a bracket for a clotheshorse, and particularly to a bracket for a clotheshorse that is placed on a base of the clotheshorse to arrange versatile accessories on the clotheshorse.

### **2. Description of Related Art**

With reference to Fig. 8, a conventional clotheshorse (30) is composed of a base (31), two telescoping rods (32), two Y-shaped connectors (33), a rack (35) and an optional hanging rod (34). The base (31) is rectangular and has two ends. The two telescoping rods (32) are respectively mounted on the two ends of the base (31). The Y-shaped connectors (33) are mounted respectively on the telescoping rods (32). Each Y-shaped connector (33) has a vertical socket (331), two arms (333) and a transverse recess (332). The vertical socket (331) has a top (not numbered) and an open bottom (not numbered). The arms (333) join the top of the vertical socket (331) to form a joint and extend out from the top of the vertical socket (331) in opposite directions to form a Y-shape. The transverse recess (332) is defined at the joint of the arms (333) and the vertical socket (331) through the connector (33). Each arm (333) of the connector (33) has a distal end and a lip (334) formed at the distal end.

The telescoping rods (32) are mounted on the base (31), and the top ends of the telescoping rods (32) are mounted respectively in the vertical sockets (331) in the Y-shaped connectors (33). The rack (35) composed of

1 multiple rigid crossed members is mounted on the arms (333) and is held in  
2 place by the lips (334). The hanging rod (34) has two ends inserted  
3 respectively into the transverse recesses (332) in the paired Y-shaped  
4 connectors (33).

5 However, the conventional clotheshorse (30) has the following  
6 drawbacks:

7 1. Other accessories such as panels cannot attach to the clotheshorse  
8 (30) because the lip (334) is only suitable for supporting the rack (35).  
9 Additionally, small-sized objects cannot be placed on the rack (35) because  
10 the objects will fall through holes on the rack (35). Therefore, usage of the  
11 clotheshorse (30) is limited.

12 2. The clotheshorse (30) only has one hanging rod (34) so that a  
13 person cannot hang more clothes on the clotheshorse (30). The quantity of  
14 clothes the clotheshorse (30) will accommodate is limited.

15 3. The rack (35) is easily detached from the two connectors (33)  
16 because the cross members of the rack (35) only rest on the arms (333) and  
17 are only held in place by the lips (344) at corners. Therefore, the rack (35) is  
18 easily deformed when too much weight is loaded on the rack (35) because  
19 the four arms (333) of the Y-shaped connectors (33) cannot provide  
20 distributed support of the rack (35). Moreover, the cross members on the rack  
21 (35) easily slide on the arms (333) when the clotheshorse (30) vibrates.

22 The present invention has arisen to provide a bracket for a  
23 clotheshorse to eliminate or obviate the drawbacks of the conventional  
24 clotheshorse.

1     SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

2             A first objective of the present invention is to provide a bracket for a  
3     clotheshorse, which increases versatility of the clotheshorse.

4             A second objective of the present invention is to provide a bracket  
5     for a clotheshorse, which stably supports versatile detachable accessories.

6             Further benefits and advantages of the present invention will become  
7     apparent after a careful reading of the detailed description when taken in  
8     conjunction with the drawings.

9     BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

10            Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a clotheshorse having a bracket  
11     assembly in accordance with the present invention;

12            Fig. 2 is an enlarged exploded perspective view of a bracket in Fig. 1;

13            Fig. 3 is an enlarged exploded perspective view of the bracket  
14     assembly as in Fig. 1 with a rack and a hanging rod;

15            Fig. 4 is an enlarged perspective view of the bracket assembly in Fig.  
16     3;

17            Fig. 5 is an enlarged perspective view of another operational  
18     embodiment of the bracket assembly in accordance with the present  
19     invention with two supplementary hanging rods;

20            Fig. 6 is an enlarged exploded perspective view of still another  
21     operational embodiment of the bracket assembly in accordance with the  
22     present invention with a panel mounted on the two supplementary hanging  
23     rods in Fig. 5;

24            Fig. 7 is an enlarged perspective view of the operational embodiment

of the bracket assembly in Fig. 6; and

Fig. 8 is an exploded perspective view of a conventional clotheshorse in accordance with the prior art.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

A bracket for a clotheshorse in accordance with the present invention is used on a clotheshorse in pairs to hold multiple rods, racks, shelves or other accessories between two brackets. The two brackets with the versatile and detachable accessories are called a “bracket assembly” in the following description.

With reference to Fig. 1, a clotheshorse comprises a base (21), two telescoping rods (22) and a bracket assembly (not numbered). The base (21) is a rectangular frame having two ends (not numbered). The two telescoping rods (22) are mounted respectively on the two ends of the base (21). Each telescoping rod (22) has a distal end (not numbered). The bracket assembly is detachably mounted on the distal ends of the two telescoping rods (22).

With further reference to Figs. 2 and 3, the bracket assembly comprises two brackets (10) in accordance with the present invention, an optional hanging rod (24) and an optional rack (23) composed of multiple transverse and longitudinal members.

Each bracket (10) is composed a fan-shaped plate (13) with an inner fan-shaped opening (not numbered), multiple optional flanges (not numbered), multiple collars (12, 131), multiple slots (132), a vertical socket (11) and two ends (not numbered). The fan-shaped plate (13) has an arced upper edge and two side edges. Multiple flanges are extendedly formed on

1 the arced upper edge, the two side edges and around the inner fan-shaped  
2 opening. The multiple collars on one bracket (10) comprise multiple first  
3 collars (131) and a second collar (12) that align respectively with the collars  
4 (12, 131) on the other bracket (10). The first collars (131) are in a line, are  
5 evenly spaced above the inner fan-shaped opening near the arced upper edge  
6 and correspond to the longitudinal members of the rack (23). One first collar  
7 (131) is defined at each end of the bracket (10). The second collar (12) is  
8 defined in the fan-shaped plate (13) below the inner fan-shaped opening near  
9 a joint of the two side edges on the fan-shaped plate (13). The multiple slots  
10 (132) are defined in the flange on the arced upper edge and extend inward to  
11 communicate respectively with the first collars (131). The vertical socket (11)  
12 is formed at the joint of the side edges of the fan-shaped plate (13).

13 With further reference to Fig. 4, the bracket assembly is attached to  
14 the base (21) by inserting the distal ends of the telescoping rods (22)  
15 respectively into the vertical sockets (11) on the two brackets (10).

16 The hanging rod (24) has two end caps (121) and is mounted  
17 detachably between the two brackets (10) by inserting the two end caps (121)  
18 respectively into the second collars (12) on the two brackets (10). When the  
19 rack (23) is mounted on the two brackets (10), the longitudinal members of  
20 the rack (23) near the ends of the rack (23) are mounted respectively inside  
21 first collars (131) through the slots (132). Therefore, the rack (23) cannot  
22 slide on the two brackets (10) so displacement of the rack (23) is prevented.

23 With reference to Fig. 5, another operational embodiment of the  
24 bracket assembly has two supplementary hanging rods (25). The

1 supplementary hanging rods (25) extend respectively between corresponding  
2 ends of the two brackets (10) to add two more rods from which clothes can  
3 be suspended. Furthermore, additional supplementary hanging rods (not  
4 shown) can be mounted between corresponding pairs of first collars (131) in  
5 the two brackets (10) to increase the capability to suspend clothes.

6 With reference to Figs. 6 and 7, an optional panel (26) may be  
7 detachably mounted on the two supplementary hanging rods (25). The panel  
8 (26) has a bottom face and four C-shaped resilient clamps (261) attached to  
9 the bottom face with openings facing to the supplementary hanging rods (25).  
10 Thereby, the panel (26) is firmly attached on the supplementary hanging rods  
11 (25) by clamping the C-shaped resilient clamps (261) to the supplementary  
12 hanging rods (25).

13 The bracket assembly containing the brackets in accordance with the  
14 present invention has the following advantages:

15 1. The bracket assembly enables accessories to be selectively added  
16 to or remove from the clotheshorse to meet a person's various requirements.  
17 For example, multiple supplementary hanging rods (25) can be mounted  
18 between the two brackets (10) to increase the capacity to suspend clothes.

19 2. When the rack (23) is mounted on the two brackets (10), the  
20 longitudinal members are mounted inside the first collars (131) via the slots  
21 (132) to keep the rack (23) from sliding on the two brackets (10).  
22 Additionally, the rack (23) is supported on the two brackets (10) evenly at  
23 the ends instead of at four corners as with the conventional Y-shaped  
24 connectors. Therefore, the rack (23) is safe from sliding or deforming and is

1    stable.

2            Although the invention has been explained in relation to its preferred  
3   embodiment, many other possible modifications and variations can be made  
4   without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as hereinafter  
5   claimed.